

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE TO BOOKER T. JOHNSON

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 24, 2004*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Booker T. Johnson for his nearly three decades of public service to the citizens of New York City and his continued commitment to improving our community.

Booker is the son of Booker T. Johnson, Sr. and Piccola Tyler Johnson. He was born in the State of Virginia and received his education in South Carolina where he graduated from Scotts Brance High School in Summerton, S.C. In 1957, Booker relocated to New York. He married Roxie Carter Johnson in 1961, and they are proud parents of Booker T. Johnson, Jr. and Deron Johnson, and proud grandparents of Booker T. Johnson III.

Booker joined the New York City Police Department in 1968 receiving several commendations during his 28-year career. He retired in 1995. From 1975 to the present, he has been the owner and operator of B & D Florist on Atlantic Avenue in Brooklyn that serves many churches, business organizations, and the public.

In 1970, he joined Tuscan #58 F&A.M. (PH) Masonic Lodge becoming Master of the Lodge in 1980 and served as Grand Junior Warden in 1986. In 1978, he became a member of Fidelity Chapter #54 O.E.S., P.H.A. In South Carolina, he was a member of St. Phillip Church and joined Brown Memorial Baptist Church upon moving to Brooklyn, New York. Booker's motto is to, "treat everyone as you wish to be treated."

Mr. Speaker, Booker T. Johnson dedicated his professional life to protecting New York's and he continues to be committed to strengthening our community. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CHRISTOPHER COX**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 24, 2004*

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, had I been present on October 8, 2004, I would have voted "yes" on H. Amdt. 789, amending H.R. 10 to establish a "zero tolerance" policy towards the unlawful importation, possession, or transfer of shoulder fired guided missiles (MANPADS), atomic weapons, dirty bombs, and variola (smallpox) virus by making their unauthorized possession a federal crime carrying stiff mandatory penalties.

ANNIVERSARY OF GEORGIA'S "ROSE REVOLUTION"

**HON. JO ANN DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 24, 2004*

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker one year ago yesterday, November 23, 2003 the world witnessed an extraordinary political event involving the peaceful pursuit of democracy. In what has become known as the "Rose Revolution", the people of the Republic of Georgia, after several weeks of peaceful and bloodless protests following parliamentary elections which were determined to be fraudulent, forced a peaceful change in their government. On that day, opposition parliamentarians entered their Assembly, roses in hand, demanding that the will of the people, expressed by their recent vote, be honored. Given the strong support of the public the government of Eduard Shevardnadze collapsed.

Soon after, and under the effective management of interim President Nino Burdzhanadze, a free, fair and democratic presidential election was held. Mikhail Saakashvili, leader of the opposition protest, was overwhelmingly elected and sworn into office on January 24 of this year as President of the Republic of Georgia.

Mr. Speaker, Georgia is a small, but strategic country located in the Caucasus, between Russia, Iran, Turkey, and Central Asia. President Saakashvili is a young, energetic leader who has received educational training here in the U.S. and has repeatedly stressed the importance of strong ties with the United States. Since his election, he has committed his country to a strong effort against global terrorism and has deployed troops to Iraq. When President Saakashvili visited the United States Congress earlier this year he delivered a strong message of peace, stability, democracy, political reform, economic opportunity and closer cooperation with the West.

Recognizing the important developments taking place in Georgia, the Europe Subcommittee, which I Chair, passed H. Res. 483 in October, pledging the continued support of the United States for the continued development of democracy in Georgia.

Today, as we remember the events of November 23, 2003, we express our congratulations to the people and Government of Georgia and reaffirm our support for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Georgia.

COMPREHENSIVE PEACE IN SUDAN ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 19, 2004*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 2781, the Comprehensive Peace in Sudan Act of 2004.

There can be no mistake that the situation in Darfur constitutes a massive humanitarian disaster. There is indisputable evidence from Members of Congress, international observers and non-governmental organizations that thousands of people have been killed, countless numbers of women and girls have been raped, and hundreds of thousands of people have been displaced. Lives remain in danger as water and food is scarce and the potential of a cholera outbreak is very real. It is imperative that the United States and the international community become more actively engaged in this issue—we should not allow the human suffering to continue a day longer.

The Comprehensive Peace in Sudan Act is a significant measure designed to aid the suffering in Darfur while holding the perpetrators of these atrocities responsible for their actions. The Comprehensive Peace in Sudan Act authorizes hundreds of millions of dollars for humanitarian development and refugee assistance. At the same time, this legislation blocks the U.S. assets of complicit senior officials of the Sudanese government and seeks to prevent the travel of Sudanese government officials to the U.S. until demonstrated human rights protections are in place.

The provisions in the Comprehensive Peace in Sudan Act are necessary steps toward ending the humanitarian crisis in Darfur, but they are far from sufficient. The U.S. and the international community must maintain pressure on the Sudanese government to end the violence immediately and unconditionally.

I remain committed to working with my colleagues in Congress and the international community to end the genocide in Darfur and bring peace and stability to the Sudanese people.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF S. 2986, INCREASING THE PUBLIC DEBT LIMIT

SPEECH OF

**HON. RON KIND**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 18, 2004*

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to the bill before us today. For the third time in as many years, we are debating raising the debt limit because of irresponsible government policy. Today, this House will vote on raising the debt limit by

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

\$800 billion, which will bring the debt ceiling to an astounding \$8.2 trillion.

It concerns me that we need to raise the debt limit because of irresponsible fiscal policy such as giving tax cuts to the nation's millionaires while our country is fighting a war overseas and my home state of Wisconsin is hemorrhaging manufacturing jobs.

While I understand that it is sometimes inevitable that we must raise the debt limit, I believe that such a serious step should be taken in conjunction with pay-as-you go rules. I believe our country must return to the days of fiscal responsibility with a realistic, workable plan to put America back on a path to fiscal security. A first step towards that goal is to restore the pay-as-you-go requirements which left budget surpluses in the 1990s and enabled us to begin paying down the debt.

We need to start making decisions that will leave our children a better country to inherit. As the father of two little boys, I did not come to Congress to leave my sons a legacy of debt, hurt economic growth, and make this country more dependent on foreign nations, who are currently the largest holders of our debt. By 2014, American families will pay an additional \$9,400 in interest on the national debt. That same year, the Social Security Trust Fund will be completely depleted if this Congress' reckless fiscal policies continue unchecked.

I am voting against such fiscal recklessness because there is no plan to restore fiscal responsibility in the future as we rapidly approach the Baby Boom generation's impending retirement. The American people deserve no less than a government that applies the same fiscal responsibility that any hard-working American family would in crafting a household budget. This Congress has failed to apply such fiscal responsibility; therefore, I urge all my colleagues to oppose this bill.

#### TRIBUTE TO GERALDINE SCOTT

#### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 24, 2004*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Geraldine Scott for her dedication to our community and commitment to mentoring our youth.

Born in Queens, raised in Brooklyn, Gerri has dedicated her life to the service of others. She was educated in the New York City public school system and graduated from Hunter College in 1991 with a Bachelor of Science degree in economics. She is the granddaughter of Rudell Howell, the daughter of Ethel Owens and the proud mother of Bernard Isaiah Scott.

Professionally, Gerri has worked for the Topps Company, Inc. for more than 15 years. Initially employed as a Credit Coordinator, she has received numerous promotions and, as of 2000, was promoted to the position of Office Service Supervisor. As Office Service Supervisor, Gerri manages a staff of employees and oversees various functions and operations for Topps, including building services management. Her responsibilities also include Buyer Coordinator, Telecommunication Analyst for all Topps locations, and Communications Coordinator for the U.S., Canadian and UK offices.

Personally, she has been actively involved in her community and the Berean Baptist Church for over 25 years, serving her church through membership on various ministries, including but not limited to: the Junior Usher Board, Youth Lay League, Young Adult Choir, Young Adult Ministry, Sunday School, and Bible Study. She served her community by working with the elderly at the Kingsboro Senior Citizens home and tutored children as well as adults in math and reading.

She joined the Girl Scouts at the age of 5 and eventually became a Scout Leader. Having served as a leader for over 10 years, Gerri enjoys her work in supervising girls of all ages. She has served as Service Unit Manager for the North Brook #3 area for 4 years, during which time her scouting unit experienced tremendous growth. She implemented new programs and worked diligently with her girls, affording her the opportunity to listen, witness, and attend to their many needs. Gerri also coordinated a summer job and volunteer program for her Senior and Cadette Scouts to provide them with a "real world" experience in a work environment. One of Gerri's greatest pleasures is a visit from one of her former Girl Scouts. Gerri says, "When a Scout comes back and shares their experiences and accomplishments with me, I feel as if I have made a difference in their life."

She works tirelessly and selflessly as a mother, manager, and community leader. She truly cares about her fellow man and considers it an honor to be able to help shape and mold her son into the man that God has called him to be and for the opportunity to positively affect the lives of the girls she works with through the Girl Scouts. She lives her life encouraged and empowered by her favorite scripture, Philippians, 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Mr. Speaker, Geraldine Scott has been actively involved in strengthening our community through her various volunteer efforts at her church, a senior home and with the Girl Scouts. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

#### IN CELEBRATION OF THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF LEISURE WORLD-LAGUNA WOODS

#### HON. CHRISTOPHER COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 24, 2004*

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of Leisure World in Laguna Woods, California. It was on September 10, 1964 that the first residents moved into Leisure World, a private community designed especially for active, retired seniors. Within a mere 3 years, the community had grown to a population of 10,000, making it one of our country's earliest and largest age-restricted developments.

Today, Leisure World is home to nearly 18,000 residents who enjoy a variety of housing options and social services, an abundance of recreational activities and organizations, and an exceptionally warm and welcoming community. Nestled in the rolling hills of South Orange County, Leisure World existed as an

unincorporated part of the county for more than 3 decades. In 1999, the community made history when its residents voted for cityhood and the area officially became part of Laguna Woods, America's first and only age-restricted city.

I had the pleasure of getting to know the residents of Leisure World when I was first running for Congress in 1988. And, for the past 16 years, it has been a true honor to represent this unique and thriving community. In my experience, Leisure World residents are among the most politically aware and active of my constituency. Local political clubs have included me in hundreds of roundtable discussions, candidate debates, and "Get-Out-The-Vote" events. Leisure World TV has interviewed me on numerous occasions for its local cable show, and the community newsletter has welcomed my columns.

Most importantly, individual residents are always willing to share their informed opinions and suggestions on nearly any issue. Because of their insight, I have authored laws to reduce death taxes for seniors living in communities such as Leisure World, and to ease federal regulations that sought to outlaw age-restricted communities. I truly value my relationship with Leisure World, and I appreciate the opportunity to carry legislation on behalf of this community.

Mr. Speaker, it is my sincere honor to ask the Congress of the United States of America to join me in congratulating Leisure World-Laguna Woods on the occasion of its 40th Anniversary.

#### RECOGNIZING THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA FOR PUBLIC SERVICES PERFORMED ACROSS THE UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

#### HON. JO ANN DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 19, 2004*

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 853, which expresses the Sense of Congress that the Department of Defense should continue to exercise its authority to support the activities of the Boy Scouts of America.

I am appalled that the Department of Defense agreed to warn its military bases worldwide not to sponsor Boy Scout Troops—just because the ACLU is upset that they require their members to swear an oath to God. I wholeheartedly disagree with this decision, and I think the Pentagon should reconsider this short-sighted settlement.

Over the last 30 years, the Department of Defense has been specifically authorized to host Scouts on its installations and to provide equipment, transportation, and other services for both national and international events such as the Boy Scout Jamboree. Furthermore, United States Code Title 10, Sections 4682, 7541, and 9682 authorizes the Department of Defense to sell and donate (in certain cases) obsolete or excess material to the Boy Scouts of America to support its activities.

In the First District of Virginia, the Boy Scout Jamboree is hosted at Fort A.P. Hill every four years. The success of this event is directly attributable to the strong relationship that the

Boy Scouts and the Department of Defense have built over the years.

The Boy Scouts and the Department of Defense have enjoyed a unique relationship with many former Scouts joining the ranks of our nation's military. The Pentagon's recent agreement threatens this unique relationship of two organizations dedicated to one important objective: service to God and country.

I would remind my colleagues that Boy Scouts are not the only people who swear an oath to God. The fact is that our own service men and women take a similar oath before God at the beginning of their service, and I will not support any action or agreement which attempts to endanger a partnership which clearly benefits both organizations. I urge the Pentagon to reconsider its decision and to continue to support the Boy Scouts of America.

#### HONORING MARGARET HASSAN

### HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 24, 2004*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness and reflection that I rise today to honor Mrs. Margaret Hassan—a friend of the international community and a true humanitarian.

Mrs. Hassan worked in humanitarian relief in Baghdad for more than 25 years, the last 12 for CARE International as CARE Iraq's country director. She was a British citizen from an Irish family—but her husband Tahseen and her friends would attest that she was an Iraqi through-and-through. She loved the country, the people and the challenge. While others would leave, her hard work never wavered. "I'm staying with my people," she was quoted as saying. "This is my home."

I had the unique experience of talking with Mrs. Hassan about the challenges and difficulties facing the Iraqi people. We spoke at length about the people, the security and the future. While she expressed concern about the safety of the Iraqi people, she maintained a sense of optimism for the future of her adopted home. She was determined to continue her work, and her personality, courage and compassion kept her spirits high, even in the darkest of hours.

In October, the Times of London described her resiliency and courage in the face of the utmost danger. They wrote, "Even at the height of the air raids on Baghdad, she would travel around government departments in the city offering assistance to local officials who had helped her in the past and lobbying them to ensure that fresh water was available in the main hospitals" (Times Newspapers, 10/20/04). She was always working for the betterment of the Iraqi people, even when it threatened her own personal safety.

In her death, the Iraqi people have lost a hero, and the world has lost a true friend. My thoughts and prayers are with her husband, her family, her friends and the Iraqi people.

#### CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4818, CONSOLIDATED TIONS ACT, 2005

SPEECH OF

### HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, November 20, 2004*

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I strongly oppose H.R. 4818, the omnibus appropriations bill for fiscal year 2005. This \$388.4 billion catchall federal spending bill represents the skewed budget priorities under which the Republican House Leadership has been operating. It puts special interest priorities before the public trust and severely underfunds critical programs.

H.R. 4818 is an exclamation point on a year-long spending spree by Congress at the expense of taxpayers and future generations. Taxpayers are picking up the tab on gratuitous government spending, while essential programs are shortchanged; the bill falls short of its commitment to the No Child Left Behind program by \$9.4 billion, freezes the maximum Pell Grant for the second year in a row, and shortchanges funding for veterans' benefits and rural conservation initiatives.

Additionally, the credibility of the legislative process was compromised, as appropriators of the majority party defied procedural methods to rework the bill exactly to their liking, not to mention the liking of the White House. Appropriators handily struck backroom deals to make the following changes: to exclude a measure to allow the reimportation of prescription drugs; to override a House-passed provision to protect overtime benefits to six million employees; and to change bicameral recommendations on federal outsourcing and travel and trade relations with Cuba.

Also, it concerns me that just last week we had to raise the debt limit for the third time in the past several years to an astounding \$8.2 trillion. Moreover, it worries me that we had to raise the debt limit because of irresponsible fiscal policy such as giving tax cuts to the Nation's millionaires while our country is fighting a war overseas and my home State of Wisconsin is hemorrhaging manufacturing jobs.

The proponents of the fiscal year 2005 Omnibus have touted it as a package of real programs that benefit real people. This bill is an insult to the principles of this democratic body, and what I want to know is when the special interest spending spree will cease and real people will again be the priority.

We need to start making decisions that will leave our children a better country to inherit. As the father of two little boys, I did not come to Congress to leave my sons a legacy of debt, hurt economic growth, and make this country more dependent on foreign nations, who are currently the largest holders of our debt. By 2014, American families will pay an additional \$9,400 in interest on the national debt. That same year, the Social Security Trust Fund will be completely depleted if this Congress's reckless fiscal policies continue unchecked.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly oppose the fiscal year 2005 omnibus bill. I cannot in good faith support such fiscal recklessness because there is no plan to restore fiscal responsibility in the future as we rapidly approach the Baby Boom generation's impending retirement. The American people deserve no less than a gov-

ernment that applies the same fiscal responsibility that any hard-working American family would in crafting a household budget.

#### A TRIBUTE TO JOELLE BAILEY

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 24, 2004*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Joelle Bailey for her accomplishments in the field of business and efforts to improve the manners of all people in our community.

Joelle has over 20 years experience in catering, event planning and the restaurant business. Little did she know that a position at Essence Magazine would serve as the impetus for her to enter the food and hospitality industry. At a very young age, Joelle's mom Marie felt very strongly about manners and etiquette and instilled those values in Joelle and her sister Yves. Joelle has taken these values and turned them into a lifetime mission not only for herself but to assist and instruct others in these areas.

Joelle has learned through some of the best working positions at the Vista Hilton, Marriott and Plaza Hotels and LSG Sky Chefs. She received her formal training at the French Culinary Institute and Sky Chefs. By 1994, she opened Classic Catering which is a full service event planning and catering business that caught the attention of the New York Times, Daily News, NY Post, 98.7 KISS FM and WOR 710. In June 2004, Joelle was featured in the Daily News' "Spotlight On Great People" by Clem Richardson. Publicity aside, Joelle is pleased that her clients and guests approve of her fabulous catering and cooking skills. Currently, Joelle writes several columns, sharing her knowledge on entertaining, etiquette and menu and recipe suggestions. Some of Joelle's most memorable clients have included: The New York Urban League, Diana Ross, Mt. Sinai Hospital, Russell Simmons, Suzanne Taylor, The United Way, Bill Cosby, Children's Television Network, Jackie Robinson Foundation, New York Bar Association, New York University, Columbia University and many more.

Joelle shares her love for young people by teaching courses in the art of etiquette, table manners, sophistication, food, nutrition and basic "101" cooking skills. She teaches these classes for the community in different schools and also in her home. Each event is sponsored with her own personal finances. Adults are welcome as well. Additionally, her very own etiquette/cookbook will be launched next year and a food show is in the works.

On her son Issiah's 3rd birthday March 27, 2004 Joelle launched a not-for-profit foundation called Issiah W. Simms Foundation to help children improve their etiquette and manners. Eight years ago, Joelle realized that she was not satisfied with the etiquette and manners of today's children, teens and even adults. For her, there was a major state of emergency existing in society that needed to be addressed. This concern led her to form the Issiah W. Simms Foundation.

Joelle is fortunate to have wonderful and insightful parents Hubert and Marie Valbrun, mentors (stepmother, Rosette Wayne), teachers and friends who are supportive of her

work. She has a degree in Liberal Arts from Pace University and an MBA from Liberty University. She dreams of opening a finishing school that would be free to her Brooklyn community.

Mr. Speaker, Joelle Bailey has been a leader in our community through her entrepreneurial accomplishments and efforts to create a more civil society. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

**A TRIBUTE TO THE COMMUNITY  
OF CORONA DEL MAR ON THE  
OCCASION OF ITS CENTENNIAL  
CELEBRATION**

**HON. CHRISTOPHER COX**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 24, 2004*

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the community of Corona del Mar on the occasion of its centennial celebration. Residents, community leaders, and City officials have been planning the communitywide celebration of this historic anniversary for the last 2 years. It is with great pleasure that I recognize today the entire Corona del Mar citizenry for the outstanding quality of life, arts, education, and rich history that has made this area one of the most sought after places to live in America.

On June 29, 1904, George E. Hart, a Los Angeles real estate mogul, signed an agreement with the Irvine Company for the purchase of a 706-acre corner of Irvine Ranch. In early July 1904, the transaction of this sale and ownership was officially recorded with the County of Orange, and the village of Corona del Mar was born.

A grand celebration recently brought together the entire community in a citywide celebration to honor the 100th birthday of Corona del Mar, as well as to plan for the future.

The official Centennial Celebration, which began with an official launch event and gala art show, culminated with the Centennial Celebration on the weekend of October 14–17, 2004 in Corona del Mar.

I would like to commend the Corona del Mar Centennial Foundation and Organizing Committee for its dedicated commitment to plan a first class, year-long communitywide celebration honoring this important time in Corona del Mar's history. Certainly the village itself, and the people who live in it, deserve the very best. It is an honor to represent Corona del Mar in the United States House of Representatives.

**ELECTION IN UKRAINE**

**HON. JO ANN DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 24, 2004*

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, 2 months ago, this House overwhelmingly passed H. Con. Res. 415 regarding the October 31 Presidential elections about to be held in the Ukraine.

During the floor debate on that resolution, I noted that the development of a strong de-

mocracy in the Ukraine has been slow and difficult over the past 13 years. In recognizing this fact, I stated that no issue would be more important to the Ukraine's future standing with the West than the test its democracy was about to face in that Presidential election. I said that in many ways the election represented a historic opportunity for the people of the Ukraine to decide whether or not democracy can flourish in this important nation.

Those elections did take place on October 31. Since no candidate received over 50 percent of the votes, a runoff election was just held this past Sunday. Regrettably, and despite every effort we were told would be made by the Government for a free and fair election, the rhetoric was not matched by the actions and the elections seemed to have been seriously flawed.

A preliminary assessment of the elections conducted by the International Election Observation Mission (IEOM), consisting of representatives from the OSCE, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the European Parliament and the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, indicated that the second round of the presidential election did not meet a considerable number of internationally accepted standards for democratic elections. The IEOM report listed election day violence, intimidation of voters and observers, suspiciously high voter turnout in some regions, problems with ballot counting and the addition of several hundred thousand absentee ballots.

In a statement issued by Senator RICHARD LUGAR who was observing the elections as the representative of President Bush, the Senator reported that it was apparent that a concerted and forceful program of election day fraud and abuse was enacted with either the leadership or cooperation of government authorities.

Mr. Speaker, this is disappointing and unacceptable news from the Ukraine. It seems incomprehensible to me that with the rocky relationship the West has had at times with the outgoing leadership in Kiev that the new President of the Ukraine would want to spend the next 5 years under a cloud of legitimacy as a result of an unfair electoral process.

Mr. Speaker, we in the Congress have long supported building a stable, democratic, and prosperous nation in the Ukraine and have tried to work with those individuals and organizations who shared our goals. Unfortunately, and regrettably, the conduct of these recent elections suggests that many in Ukraine's current government have not yet committed themselves to this goal and lack the political will to do so.

As chairwoman of the Europe Subcommittee I believe I can speak for the House in expressing our deep disappointment with the conduct of these recent elections and our concerns for the Ukraine's future. We join with the Bush administration in calling on the current President of the Ukraine, the Rada and the Supreme Court to conduct a thorough review of these elections and investigate the charges of mass fraud before any certification of the results is made. At the very least, it may be necessary to hold new elections in those cities or regions where the fraud was most blatant. We also call on all sides of the dispute to exercise restraint and avoid violence. Finally, if the dispute is not resolved in support of the democratic process, then I believe the Bush administration must begin a review of

our relations with the Ukraine and take whatever actions may be necessary to express our displeasure with the actions of the Ukraine government and its leaders.

**A TRIBUTE TO ROSA CALHOUN**

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 24, 2004*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Rosa Calhoun in recognition of her accomplishments in her field of business and commitment to the community.

Rosa was born in Brooklyn, New York, the second child of Ruby Calhoun. Her daughter, Saretta, and her son, Dominique, are Rosa's pride and joy.

Rosa graduated from Clara Barton Vocational High School where she enhanced her talent in hair care by specializing in weaving and hair cutting. She has received many trophies because of these specialties.

Rosa has been in business for 30 years and participated in many fashion shows as "Top Hair Designer". She worked with and received many awards and certificates from The Hilton, Leviticus, Coliseum, and the Bronner Brother in Atlanta for her outstanding expertise in the field of hair styling. She was featured in 1986 "Shop Talk" and the 1998 "Essence" magazines.

Rosa has an active member of the Berean Baptist Church for 7 years. She is a member of the Berean Choir and the Hospitality Committee. In addition, Rosa is a member of the Aurelia Chapter #724 Order of Eastern Stars. She is a potential candidate for the Central Brooklyn Lions Club and the Negro Business and Professional Women's Inc. where she plans to serve as a member. Today, Rosa continues to strive for excellence in hair care. She enjoys working within the community where she grew up. Her love for hair styling has led her to achieve and attain all of her goals in her professional career.

Mr. Speaker, Rosa Calhoun, a Brooklyn native, has been a consistently positive force in her community through her business efforts, church and other civic activities. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

**RECOGNIZING LUPUS  
INTERNATIONAL**

**HON. CHRISTOPHER COX**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 24, 2004*

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call this Congress' attention to a devastating disease that affects millions of Americans. Systematic Lupus Erythematosus, commonly known as lupus, is a chronic, complex, and often life-threatening autoimmune disease. It causes the immune system to become hyperactive and attack the body's own tissue, damaging vital organs which can lead to severe disability or death.

Research shows that 1.5 million people are afflicted with lupus in the United States—more

than those affected by AIDS, Cerebral Palsy, Multiple Sclerosis, Sickle Cell Anemia and Cystic Fibrosis combined. In Southern California alone, more than 100,000 people suffer from this disease. Although lupus can affect people of all ages, it strikes primarily women between the ages of 16–45, and is currently the fourth leading cause of disability in females.

To date, there is no known cure for lupus, and there are still very few treatments specific to the disease. However, with increased public awareness, education, and innovative research, we are hopeful that this battle can and will be won. Lupus International, a nonprofit organization in Irvine, California, has been a champion in the field of lupus research since it was founded in 1983. For over two decades, Lupus International has worked to alleviate suffering for millions of patients through support services, awareness promotion, and early detection of undiagnosed cases.

On October 17, 2004, Lupus International held its fifth annual “Lupus Race for Life,” to raise money for lupus research. I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring this outstanding organization for its 20 year commitment to finding a cure for lupus, and its tremendous service to the millions of Americans suffering from this devastating disease.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4818,  
CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. TAMMY BALDWIN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, November 20, 2004*

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to protest the inclusion of the federal refusal clause in the FY2005 Omnibus Appropriations bill. As a strong supporter of a woman's constitutionally guaranteed right to choose, I fear that this provision chips away at this right and will place women's health in jeopardy.

A woman's right to exercise control over her own body and to make her own health care decisions is vitally important. This right, as guaranteed by the United States Supreme Court in *Roe v. Wade*, has been the target of systematic attacks in recent years. This most recent attack—the federal refusal clause—is particularly egregious due to its radical change of current law.

The federal refusal clause allows a broad range of health care entities to refuse to comply with existing federal, state, and local laws and regulations pertaining to abortion services. The bill severely limits patients' rights and access to services and information, thereby impeding their ability to make informed decisions about their health care options.

This drastic departure from current law will have devastating effects on countless women. This clause would change existing law to say that federal, state, and local governments may not require a health care entity to perform, provide coverage of, pay for, or even refer for abortions. Further, the clause was drafted so as to encompass the broadest possible range of health care entities, including insurance companies, hospitals, HMOs, and many others.

This clause will be far-reaching. It will override federal Title X guidelines ensuring women

receive full information. It will strip states of their ability to set the parameters of their own Medicaid programs. It will block states' attempts to improve women's access to full reproductive health services.

But most disturbing, the end result of this clause will be that women will be prevented from obtaining the reproductive health information and care they need and deserve.

This radical change is unacceptable and I hope that my colleagues will join me in working to repeal this dangerous provision.

A TRIBUTE TO LYDIA PATRICIA IRBY

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 24, 2004*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Lydia Patricia Irby for her spiritual leadership and varied efforts to strengthen the community.

Lydia Patricia Irby was born on December 11, 1952. She has been married 26 years to Minister Willie H. Irby and is the proud mom of her “royal court,” 3 beautiful princesses, Kiwana Yiesha Simon-Garcia, Nikkia Latanya George-Caquias, Kristina Dawn Irby and one handsome prince, Adam Benjamin Irby. She is also proud of her grandchildren, the lovely Jordan Lydia Garcia, and her handsome grandsons Taiwan Michael Simon, Christopher Todd Caquias, and Jeremiah Justin Caquias. They are “the sweetest sugars in her life”.

Lydia answered the call of God upon her life 27 years ago, when she was filled with the Holy Spirit and called into the ministry of Missionary and Evangelist. She has carried the word of the Lord throughout these United States, Canada, and Jamaica. She is a faithful member of Brooklyn Miracle Temple under the anointed leadership of Pastor Jimmy Talton and Lady Daisy Talton. The “Voice of God” and the BMT experience have brought her to another level of ministry. Lydia and her husband are the visionaries for a thriving clothing and food ministry, which meets the needs of people in the community.

Lydia is a very industrious woman, “true to her biblical name.” She is an international millinery designer, a parent coordinator, conflict resolution specialist, and coordinator of student activities at the Brooklyn High School of the Arts. She has worked in successful partnerships with Principal Robert Finly for the past five years.

She also has a diverse educational and occupational background and training including work as a licensed stockbroker for 12 years through the New York State Institute of Finance, seven years in licensed real estate management in the City of New York, certification in conflict resolution and mediation at Long Island University and successful completion of academic requirements as a Bible teacher at The Total Truth Institute. However, when it's all said and done Lydia's heartfelt desire is simply to live a life that is pleasing and acceptable to her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Her motto is: “I will leave the life of everything and everybody that I touch better than when I found it.”

Mr. Speaker, Lydia Patricia Irby has been a leader in our community through her spiritual

leadership and civic participation to improve the quality of life in Brooklyn. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

CONGRATULATING BOSTON RED SOX ON WINNING THE 2004 WORLD SERIES

SPEECH OF

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 18, 2004*

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Boston Red Sox on their historic World Series Championship, and I want to thank my colleague from Massachusetts, Mr. Capuano, for his continued—and, I might add, longstanding—leadership on this issue.

I must admit this moment is somewhat bittersweet. As a lifelong fan of the New York Yankees, winners of 26 titles and 6 American League East division titles in a row, I had become accustomed to the annual October routine of dispatching the Red Sox—often in the most heartbreaking of fashions.

As such, I have always treasured moments like Bucky Dent hitting his game-winning home run off Mike Torrez in a sudden death playoff game against the Red Sox in 1978. Last year had been particularly satisfying, as the Yankees had triumphed over the Red Sox in Game 7 of the American League Championship Series with Aaron Boone's extra-inning homerun after having stormed back against a seemingly dominant Pedro Martinez.

And this year, the Yankees seemed poised yet again to break the collective heart of Red Sox Nation—having outmaneuvered Boston to trade for Alex Rodriguez in the off-season before staking a three-games-to-none lead in the American League Championship. No baseball team had ever come back from a three-game deficit in a best-of-seven series. And with a crippling injury to Curt Schilling's ankle in Game 1 and a 19-to-8 drubbing of the Red Sox at Fenway Park in Game 3, it seemed once again that the fabled Curse of the Bambino would be making its annual devastating appearance.

Yet then, the impossible happened—in what even this ardent Yankee fan must admit was thrilling, historic fashion, the Red Sox won the next 4 games and the series.

And so, with their defeat of not only the Yankees but also their commanding 4-game sweep of the St. Louis Cardinals, I join my New England colleagues in congratulating the Boston Red Sox for rewarding the fans of Red Sox Nation with their first World Series title in 86 years. I, for one, will miss the “Nineteen-Eighteen” chants for sure, but life will go on. Even if the Red Sox are the very best baseball team in the world right now, I know that a return to Yankee domination is but 4 short months away. So, we will give you this one.

Let me again thank my colleagues—I can only hope that they will join me here next year as we return to our annual practice congratulating the Yankees.

TRIBUTE TO BOB PALMER, DEMOCRATIC STAFF DIRECTOR OF THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE

**HON. NANCY PELOSI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 24, 2004*

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my deep appreciation for the distinguished and colorful career of Dr. Robert E. Palmer. At the end of this Congress, Bob will retire, having served on the Committee on Science for 25 years. He is retiring as the Democratic Staff Director of the Committee on Science—having served in that position for longer than any other person in the history of the Committee.

Bob began his career with the Committee in the late 1970s as a Congressional Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Rather than return to academia as a research marine biologist—his field of training—Bob elected to stay on the Science Committee staff. For a quarter century, Bob has been a central participant in science and technology policy. Though he has worked largely in the background, he has made significant contributions to our Nation's well-being.

Bob was not a typical scientist. As an undergraduate, he studied psychology at Harvard and served as a Vista Volunteer. He supported himself in such varied ways as moving furniture, playing music and even working as a private detective. He left Massachusetts for the University of Delaware, where he earned a Ph.D. in marine biology. It was after he had completed his graduate work that he started on the Committee as a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) expert. Among his first critical assignments was to help negotiate the transition of LANDSAT from a government program to an operational satellite system in the private sector. This was followed by a leadership role on the Global Change Research Act. That initiative has led to the research that underpins much of our knowledge of global climate change today. He also set up a key hearing on the Search and Rescue Satellite Program that prevented that important international program from being canceled.

In the mid-1980s Dr. Palmer was promoted to Committee management. He first served as the staff Director of the Subcommittee on International Scientific Cooperation and then the Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight. He played a major role in the staff investigation of the Challenger accident, including studying issues around the fatal decision to launch.

On the I & O Subcommittee he led the investigation into problems with the NOAA-NASA weather satellite program. Without his work, it is likely that the country would have suffered some break in the gathering of real-time, high-quality data regarding emerging dangerous weather patterns. Such a break in coverage would have meant lost lives and increased property damage. Subsequent investigative work by Bob led to the resignation and later indictment and conviction of an Inspector General at an agency in the Committee's jurisdiction. His early work as a private detective ended up serving him well in his role on the Committee.

These are just a few specific examples of Bob's role in the work of the Committee. But he has helped draft numerous pieces of legislation, worked to investigate misconduct, served in many conferences with the Senate as the lead Democratic staffer and worked with Administration figures—regardless of party—to try to insure that policies and programs reflected the intent of Congress. His intelligence, energy, experience and humor have allowed him to accomplish much.

When Dr. Radford Byerly moved to Colorado in 1993, then Science Committee Chairman George Brown choose Dr. Palmer as the natural person to replace Byerly as the staff director of the full Committee on Science, Space and Technology. Bob has continued as the Democratic staff director of the committee for over a decade, serving under three senior Democratic Members from across the political spectrum. Bob has served each with talent and professionalism and all the Members of the Committee hold him in the highest regard.

Unfortunately for the Committee and the Congress, Bob's wife Mary, an accomplished researcher and teacher, has received an academic appointment from the University of Florida. So she is leaving the University of Maryland for Gainesville and Bob will follow her there. In his typically good-natured way, he says that she followed him to Washington 25 years ago and has stayed here for his career advantage; it is his turn to relocate to support her career. We wish you both well in the future. You have served the Committee, the Congress and the country with great distinction.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4818,  
CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. DON YOUNG**

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, November 20, 2004*

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the conferees for including economic development funding for the Pribilof Islands. The economies of these Island communities have been struggling in the face of the ban on the fur seal harvest and the collapse of the crab and other fisheries in the area. The funding in this appropriations bill is a key step in helping the Aleut population of the Islands to develop a diversified, sustainable economy.

For over 100 years, the Federal Government controlled the Natives' fur seal harvest on the Islands, as well as their social and municipal services. In the 1980s the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Congress embarked on a plan for transition of the Islands to independence and economic self-sufficiency. One of the most important aspects of the plan was that the Federal Government would transfer control of the fur seal harvests to the Natives and permit the Natives to keep the income from the harvests. Unfortunately, one year after the plan was developed, the Government banned fur seal harvesting on environmental grounds and removed a critical source of regular income from the community.

Four years ago, the Congress enacted the Pribilof Island Transition Act, which I authored.

I worked closely with my Alaska colleagues in the other body in crafting that legislation and shepherding it through the legislative process. The Act was aimed at compensating for the loss of the fur seal industry and for the delays in implementation of two other key objectives of the transition plan: construction of usable harbors and transfer of lands from NOAA to Island entities. The Transition Act authorized \$28 million for economic development over a period of five years. This is the first year that funds have been appropriated for this purpose, and it comes at a crucial time.

It is my hope that additional funding for Pribilof Island economic development will be forthcoming in the years ahead.

THERE IS NO THERE THERE

**HON. BARNEY FRANK**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 24, 2004*

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, the recent resignation—apparently encouraged by the President—of Secretary of State Powell has stripped one of the important facades behind which the reality of the Bush foreign policy has been hidden. It is deeply regrettable that the President and the Secretary of State worked together to keep this façade in place until now, because the fact that the Secretary of State would be leaving is the sort of information that would have been relevant to the voters on Election Day. There is no clear evidence that Secretary Powell had any great influence on the Administration's foreign policy, but his having been around did I think help the Administration in its effort to appear more reasonable in its foreign policy than it has been.

But Secretary Powell's leaving is not the only recent example we have of a façade being lifted from this Administration's record in international affairs. In the Washington Post Monday, November 15, Fred Hiatt points out another great gap between the reality of the President's foreign policy and the way in which the Administration has described it—the issue of the promotion of democracy as a goal of American foreign policy.

As Mr. Hiatt notes, when JOHN KERRY “made clear that promoting democracy abroad would not be a priority of his presidency,” this quote “allowed George W. Bush to claim the high moral ground of foreign policy.” As Mr. Hiatt notes, the President asserted at his nominating convention in 2004, “I believe in the transformational power of liberty . . . the wisest use of American strength is to advance freedom.”

But as he points out, this high-minded statement of purpose bears very little relation to the Bush foreign policy in reality.

Mr. Hiatt clearly documents the President's high tolerance for wholly undemocratic actions by foreign nations as long as they are compliant with American foreign policy in other regards. Indeed, as he notes, the only two examples that can be cited by the President's defenders in which the goal of promoting democracy has played a role are Afghanistan and Iraq. And these examples in no way bear out the claim that the President has made the advancement of democracy a central part of his foreign policy—or even a peripheral one.

In Iraq, the President advanced the notion of promoting democracy to explain his decision to go to war only after his preferred political explanations—the tie between Iraq and September 11th and the presence of weapons of mass destruction—were rebutted. Democracy here was a rationalization constructed to justify a policy that clearly had other goals, and then only after alternative explanations were refuted.

It is true that the results of the American intervention in Afghanistan will certainly be a far more democratic Afghanistan, and I welcome that. But here too it should be noted that the President's approach was to first ask the repressive and brutal Taliban to surrender Osama bin Laden to us, and only after that government refused to do that did we invade. Democracy in Afghanistan will be a happy by-product of our war, but it was not the motivating factor.

Beyond that, as Mr. Hiatt makes clear, there is not an area in the world in which promotion of democracy has been an important part of the Bush foreign policy. To quote Mr. Hiatt, "in Bush's first term, democracy promotion seemed to be the policy mostly when it was convenient . . ."

I agree with Mr. Hiatt that it is not axiomatic that the promotion of democracy should be the single or even the most important goal of American foreign policy in every instance. But what is—or at least ought to be—clear is that a President should not claim a moral basis for his foreign policy which in no way corresponds to reality.

Mr. Speaker, with Colin Powell no longer serving as a diversion without real policy influence, and with the experience we have had with the Administration's inaccurate claims about weapons of mass destruction, I hope that the Administration's actual foreign policy will receive a good deal more scrutiny than it has in the past. Mr. Hiatt's column is a good beginning in that effort. I ask that it be printed here.

[From the Washington Post, Nov. 15, 2004]

A FOREIGN POLICY TO MATCH BUSH'S  
RHETORIC?

(By Fred Hiatt)

In an interview last spring, Sen. John F. Kerry made clear that promoting democracy abroad would not be a priority of his presidency. Of course he believed in freedom and human rights, but in every country there seemed to be a goal that would rank higher for him in importance: securing nuclear materials in Russia, fighting terrorism alongside Saudi Arabia, pursuing Middle East peace with Egypt, controlling Pakistan's nuclear program, integrating China into the world economy.

Kerry's ostensibly pragmatic approach alarmed some idealists in his own party and allowed George W. Bush to claim the high moral ground of foreign policy. "I believe in the transformational power of liberty," Bush declared as he accepted his party's nomination for the second time. "The wisest use of American strength is to advance freedom."

But here's the irony: Kerry's recital of priorities around the world was a pretty fair description of Bush's first-term record. An interesting second-term question will be whether the president reshapes his policy to match his rhetoric: whether he really believes that democracy abroad is in the U.S. national interest. There are, after all, plenty of smart foreign policy experts who doubt that proposition.

In 2000 Bush did not campaign on a liberty platform, and even after his oratory began to

soar, his policies didn't change much. In Afghanistan and Iraq, democracy evolved gradually into a central goal of post-invasion U.S. policy. But in the rest of the world there seemed—just as for Kerry—to be higher priorities.

The administration counted its management of relations with China and Russia as a major first-term success, for example, marked by stability and cooperation in fighting terrorism. The fact that China was chewing away on Hong Kong's freedoms, and continuing to lock up its own dissidents, journalists and priests, didn't get in the way. The stunning rollback of freedoms in Russia didn't seem to bother Bush either.

Smaller countries offered a similar picture. Bush welcomed Thailand's autocratic leader as a comrade in the war on terrorism even as democracy there eroded. Under congressional pressure, the administration rapped the knuckles of Uzbekistan's torturers, but not so hard as to interfere with a budding military relationship. Azerbaijan's longtime communist strongman bequeathed power to his ill-prepared son, but that was okay; Azerbaijan is rich in oil and gas. Pakistan's strongman broke repeated promises to return his country to civilian rule, but he was too valuable an ally against al Qaeda for the administration to object. And so on, around the world.

The choices Bush made weren't evil, and they didn't mean that, all things being equal, he wouldn't prefer to encourage democracy. The United States was attacked, and it needed basing rights in Uzbekistan to retaliate. Its economy needs Azeri oil, and Venezuelan oil, and all kinds of other undemocratic oil. The alternative to the general running Pakistan might be a lot worse—a fundamentalist Islamic regime with nuclear weapons, for instance.

So there were strong arguments for maintaining good relations with all of these autocrats. But that's the point: there will always be countervailing arguments. If you think democracy is just a secondary, wouldn't-it-be-nice objective—if you don't think raw national interest is served by spreading freedom abroad—liberty will always rank below some mother, legitimate priority.

You might understand if Bush felt that way. After all, it was democratically elected leaders in France and Germany who caused him the most first-term heartburn. Many experienced diplomats, including senior officials of the Bush administration, believe it's more important to appeal to the national interest of a Russia or an Egypt than to worry about how those nations are governed.

But Bush says he is convinced of the opposite view: that America will actually be safer if more countries become democratic. "As freedom advances, heart by heart, and nation by nation, America will be more secure and the world more peaceful," he argued in that same convention address.

Such a belief translated into policy would not mean that liberty would automatically and always take precedence over basing rights, counterterrorism cooperation or smooth trade relations. But in Bush's first term, democracy promotion seemed to be the policy mostly when it was convenient: in Palestine, where it allowed him to avoid confrontation with Israel's leader; in Cuba, where it allowed him to win votes in Florida. If you see him in the next four years risking other U.S. interests to champion liberty where it is not so convenient, then you will know he meant what he said on the campaign trail.

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH,  
NAPERVILLE, ILLINOIS

**HON. JUDY BIGGERT**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 24, 2004*

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the members of Zion Lutheran Church in Naperville, Illinois on the 150th anniversary of the founding of their outstanding institution.

Established in the difficult years leading up to the Civil War, Zion Lutheran Church has well withstood the test of time. Through the Great Depression, a closed school, a devastating fire, and other trials, the dedication and determination of its members have triumphed. Generation after generation, they have shown their unswerving commitment to faith, family and community.

The countless and varied contributions of the members of Zion Lutheran have played a vital role in making the Village of Naperville, Illinois a great place to live and raise families. Over the past century and a half, their selfless community service has touched the lives of so many, especially children.

Zion Lutheran Church is more than just a place of worship. It is a community with a strong tradition of service, faith, and values.

Today, we all share in their joy as they celebrate 150 wonderful years. The world is a better place because of the people of Zion Lutheran Church, and the residents of Naperville and the 13th Congressional District are fortunate to count them as our friends and neighbors.

I am happy to wish Zion Lutheran Church all the best for continued success in their good work. May the next 150 years be as great a blessing as the first.

HONORING LANCE CPL JOSEPH  
WELKE

**HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH**

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 24, 2004*

Ms. HERSETH. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to honor the life of Lance Cpl. Joseph Welke who died November 20, 2004 from wounds suffered while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom during the battle for Fallujah.

Joseph, who was a Greater Dakota All-Conference football player, graduated from Stevens High School in Rapid City, South Dakota in 2003. He enlisted in the Marines soon after graduation, and was assigned to the Marine Corps base camp in Pendleton, California. He was a member of the 1st Marine Division, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force and was deployed to Iraq this past June.

Joseph dreamed of playing college football, but put those plans on hold to join the Marines and serve his country. He is described as an individual who was self-motivated and liked by everyone who knew him. Joseph's family believes his smile said it all. His mother explained that her son seldom got punished, even when he did something wrong, just because of his smile. He was committed to and gave one hundred percent to everything he



did—including football, the Marines, and his family.

Every member of the House of Representatives has taken a solemn oath to defend the constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic. While we certainly understand the gravity of the issues facing this legislative body, Lance Cpl. Joseph Welke lived that commitment to our country. Today, we remember and honor his noble service to the United States and the ultimate sacrifice he has paid with his life to defend our freedoms and foster liberty for others.

The lives of countless people were enormously enhanced by Joseph's compassion and service. Joseph, who represented the best of the United States, South Dakota, and the Marines continues to inspire all those who knew him and many who did not. Our Nation and the State of South Dakota are far better places because of his service, and the best way to honor him is to emulate his devotion to our country.

I join with all South Dakotans in expressing my sympathies to the family of Lance Cpl. Joseph Welke. His commitment to and sacrifice for our Nation will never be forgotten.

#### TRIBUTE TO RICK RIDDER

#### HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 24, 2004

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I have used this forum from time to time to acknowledge the bipartisan public service of many distinguished Coloradans. Today I rise in what I hope will be a moment my Republican friends and colleagues will not begrudge—to honor a distinguished Coloradan who is anything but bipartisan. I rise to acknowledge Rick Ridder.

Rick has been a trusted advisor and friend throughout my career in politics. Although Rick is respected and widely sought after in Colorado politics, he has never lost his down-to-earth nature. This is because he is the rarest of political partisans—a determined strategist who keeps his humanity intact. He understands the game of politics well and he most certainly plays to win. At the same time he is unwavering in his integrity and his sincere desire to work for the betterment of people.

Rick has never been particularly impressed with the “glitter” of politics that attracts so many to our profession. Rather, he believes at his core in the importance of our democracy and his duty to fight for its vitality. This should come as no surprise to anyone familiar with his upbringing. By way of example, his mother took him to an Adlai Stevenson rally at the age of three. To occupy her little boy, she suggested that he pass out flyers promoting the Illinois Governor's bid for the presidency in 1956. In addition, having grown up in and around Washington, DC his playmates included the children of Robert Kennedy and Eugene McCarthy. Whereas many of our generation looked at those men as heroes and even icons of a generation, Rick saw them simply as his friends' dads.

Had he a different character this upbringing might have led Rick to a sense of entitlement, but instead, it gave him a razor sharp sense of purpose. He uses his unique experience in

politics to serve a goal greater than his own self-interest. He has worked tirelessly to that effect for decades.

In 1982, he helped Colorado Governor Richard Lamm with his third gubernatorial campaign. He went on to become the National Field Director for Gary Hart's 1984 presidential campaign. In 1985 with his wife Joan, he formed Ridder-Braden Inc., a political consulting and polling firm that has been instrumental in crafting campaigns in Colorado and across the country. His clients have included Colorado Governor Roy Romer, Congressman David Skaggs, Senator BEN NIGHTHORSE CAMPBELL and various Members of Congress. In 2004 he helped launch the meteoric rise of Governor Howard Dean, and a provocative ballot initiative on reform of the Electoral College that made a significant contribution to the public debate on a largely over-looked, but critical, component of our democratic process.

While many political consultants are rightly maligned as “hired guns” who corrode public confidence in the political process, professionals like Rick Ridder and Joanie Braden are rare examples of people who work to elevate public discourse and improve our democracy.

For the information of my colleagues I'm attaching the original article.

[From the Rocky Mountain News, Oct. 29, 2004]

#### CONSULTANT RIDDER SAYS MEASURE IS ABOUT STRONGER DEMOCRACY

(By James B. Meadow)

Joanie Braden was deep into labor, nearing the delivery of her child, when she noticed something that years later would strike her as both odd and normal.

Right next to her bed, there was her husband, the father of the child, diligently checking his wristwatch so he could time the intervals between contractions. And, simultaneously, right next to her bed, the same man was diligently talking long-distance on the phone, processing voter pattern information from key precincts in the 1984 Oregon presidential primary.

“As Rick was doing that,” says Braden, laughing, “I remember him acting as if it was the most natural thing in the world. He was there for me; he was there for the campaign.”

Happily, both labors—natal and political—paid off for Rick Ridder. Nathaniel Ridder arrived pink and healthy; Gary Hart took Oregon.

Given this, it's no surprise to learn that “Rick absolutely loves politics . . . he lives and breathes politics.” At least that's the opinion of Tom Strickland, who hired Ridder for his two cracks at one of Colorado's U.S. Senate seats.

Although Strickland came away 0-for-2, his respect for Ridder remains resolute.

“Rick has a gifted political mind,” says Strickland. “He may be very understated and unassuming—he's like a political version of Columbo, lulling you into thinking he's not following you—but he's really a couple of steps ahead all the time.”

He better be.

As Election Day draws closer, Ridder's campaign for Amendment 36 is taking on water. The controversial measure, which would revamp Colorado's electoral votes system, replacing the current winner-take-all setup with one that awards the electoral votes proportionally, based on popular vote, has drawn national attention.

Republicans have decried it as a not-so-sneaky way to siphon votes from George W. Bush. Not all Democrats are for it, either.

And 36's proponents?

Well, one of them claims it's more representative, makes everybody's vote count equally. Furthermore, “It's the right thing to do in order to create a stronger democracy. The system we installed for democratic rule in Afghanistan did not include an Electoral College, did it?”

Those words come courtesy of Ridder, who's heading up the pro-36 fight. But words—to say nothing of a reported \$700,000—might not be enough to win. Although Ridder's side was ahead early on, a Rocky Mountain News/News 4 poll released today shows the measure sinking 60-32.

Those numbers prompted one political observer to refer to Amendment 36 as “toast.”

Ridder's reaction to the new poll numbers was cautious. “I think that one of the real issues that we're bringing forth in this campaign is the importance of making votes count—one person, one vote. And it is clear that we have started a debate on the issue, particularly on the Electoral College.”

Earlier, in a previous interview, he acknowledged his base optimism. “You have to believe that change is possible and that what you fight for can come about.”

Although there is passion in his voice, it is tamed by a reflexive calm and control.

He is 51, has thinning hair, and his 6-foot-1, 150-pound frame gives him a slightly Ichabod Crane air.

A scion of the Knight-Ridder newspaper family, Victor Frank Ridder II was immersed in politics before, well, almost before he was tall enough to be immersed in anything. When he was 3, his mother was attending a rally for Adlai Stevenson. To occupy her son, she had him handing out leaflets for the Illinois governor who was bidding for the presidency in 1956.

The political theme stayed strong in his life, perhaps in part because growing up in and around Washington, D.C., brought him into contact with playmates who were the children of Robert Kennedy and Eugene McCarthy.

After taking a year off between high school and college to toil on behalf of George McGovern's 1972 stab at the presidency, he returned to academe and graduated from Middlebury College in Vermont and earned a masters in broadcasting from Boston University.

As he was getting ready to start his Ph.D. in communications, he decided instead to defer his studies and work on Hart's 1980 reelection as U.S. senator in Colorado.

In 1982, he returned to Colorado to help with Richard Lamm's third gubernatorial campaign. He then became national field director for Hart's 1984 presidential campaign.

By then, Braden and Ridder, married in 1981, had decided Colorado was the place to raise a family and were ensconced in Denver. In 1985, Ridder-Braden Inc., a political consulting and polling firm, was born.

Over the years, Ridder compiled an impressive—and wholly Democratic—political resume. He worked on all three of Roy Romer's gubernatorial campaigns, as well as for numerous congressional candidates.

Many campaigns later, in November 2002, Ridder surprised the political world when he took on the job of campaign manager for Howard Dean's fledgling presidential run. By April 2003, however, Ridder was gone from the campaign, a victim of infighting and his disinclination to work for a “movement” rather than a candidate.

Although Ridder points to his leap of faith with the Dean campaign as proof that he takes chances, others aren't so sure. One competitor says that Ridder's strength has to do more with “analysis behind the scenes” than being a “big picture guy or a risk taker.”



Ridder, unflappable as usual, takes the comments and criticisms in stride. He's not only heard the personal remarks before, he's aware of the digs against his profession. "There is a wariness of the political consultant industry," he says. "People don't like the perception that they're being manipulated."

Ridder insists this isn't the case. As he once said, "The best we can do is take the positive aspects of our candidate or cause and emphasize them. We can't take Adolf Hitler and make him Mahatma Gandhi."

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4818,  
CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIA-  
TIONS ACT, 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, November 20, 2004*

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support H.R. 4818 and salute Chairman KOLBE and Ranking Member LOWEY in their efforts to bring this important measure forward.

Mr. Speaker, the foreign operations bill is a critical funding measure that allows the United States to engage and uplift the world's poorest citizens. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Department of State, the Department of Agriculture and now the established Millennium Challenge Corporation, should be proud of the work they do in partnership with American charitable organizations and various national governments around the globe to alleviate poverty and ease hardship. USAID effectively partners with several organizations based in Connecticut's Fourth Congressional District such as TechnoServe based in Norwalk, Save the Children, based in Westport and AmeriCares, based in Stamford.

TechnoServe's mission is quite simple; it provides hardworking men and women in the developing world with the tools and the means to participate in and benefit from the global economy. In partnership with USAID, the Department of State, USDA and some of the world's most respected corporations, TechnoServe is helping entrepreneurs build businesses that create real economic growth.

TechnoServe helps entrepreneurs build solid businesses that produce quality products for local, regional and international markets. These businesses provide jobs and raise incomes especially in the agricultural sectors of rural communities.

I am also grateful to have Save the Children headquartered in the Fourth Congressional district. Save the Children works tirelessly to provide hope to children in need across the world. The organization's ambitious mission calls its workers to service in the areas of education, HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention, women and children's health, economic development, combating hunger, and assisting refugees. Save the Children also produces excellent reports, which my staff and I use to better assess living conditions for women and children across the globe.

I am also grateful for the important work of AmeriCares, which provides disaster relief, humanitarian aid and is equipped to immediately respond to emergency medical needs for people all around the world. AmeriCares solicits

donations of medicines and other relief materials from U.S. and international manufacturers and delivers them quickly and efficiently to indigenous health care and welfare professionals around the world.

Mr. Speaker, the foreign operations bill is a vital funding component of our presence in the developing world and a bill that will truly save lives and build hope for the future. I salute those in the United States government who are involved in humanitarian and development activities and am grateful for the opportunity to highlight the work of organization's like TechnoServe, Save the Children and AmeriCares as this measure moves to final passage.

THE CASE FOR RESTRAINT IN  
IRAN

**HON. JAMES A. LEACH**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 24, 2004*

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, there are few areas of the world with a more troubling mix of geopolitical problems than the Middle East. The irony is that the war in Iraq which has consumed so much of our country's political and economic capital may hold less far-reaching consequences than challenges posed in neighboring Middle Eastern countries.

To the West, the Israeli-Palestinian stand-off remains the sorest point in world relations, although new opportunities for reconciliation between the two sides have presented themselves in the wake of Yasser Arafat's passing. To the East, the sobering prospect of Iran joining the nuclear club stands out.

It is this East of Baghdad trauma that I wish to address this afternoon.

In life, individuals and countries sometimes face circumstances in which all judgments and options are bad. The Iranian dilemma is a case-in-point. But it is more than just an abstract bad option model because at issue are nuclear weapons in the hands of a mullah-controlled society which has actively aided and abetted regional terrorists for years.

In reference to recent disclosures of enhanced Iranian efforts to develop nuclear weapons as well as missile delivery systems to carry such weapons, concerned outside parties are actively reviewing options.

The Europeans have led with diplomatic entreaties; the Israelis, with requests for the provision by the United States of sophisticated bunker-busting bombs; American policy-makers, with open-option planning, with neo-con muscularity being the principal reported theme.

In the background are references to the 1981 preemptive strike by the Israeli Air Force against Iraq's Osirak reactor.

At issue is the question of whether preemption is justified; if so, how it should be carried out; and, if carried out, whether intervention would lead to a more conciliatory, non-nuclear Iran or whether the effects of military action would be short-term, perhaps pushing back nuclear development a year or two, but precipitating a new level of hostility against the United States and Israel in Iran and the rest of the Muslim world which could continue for decades, if not centuries.

Since the American hostage crisis which so bedeviled the Carter administration in the late

1970s, we have had a policy of economic sanctions coupled with comprehensive efforts to politically isolate Iran.

Four years ago, Senator ARLEN SPECTER and I invited Iran's U.N. Ambassador to Capitol Hill, the first visit to Washington by a high-level Iranian representative since the hostage crisis.

On the subject of possible movement toward normalization of relations with Iran, I told the ambassador that while many would like to see a warming of relations, it would be inconceivable for the United States to consider normalizing our relationship so long as Iran continued its support of Hamas and Hezbollah. The ambassador forthrightly acknowledged that Iran provided help to both these terrorist organizations, but also noted, in what was the most optimistic thing he said that day, that his government was prepared to cease support to anti-Israeli terrorist groups the moment a Palestinian state was established with borders acceptable to Palestinians.

For decades in the Muslim world, debate has been on-going whether to embrace a credible two state (Israel and Palestine) approach or advance an irrevocable push-Israel-to-the-sea agenda.

The implicit Iranian position, as articulated by the ambassador, is support for a two-state approach, but if the United States on its own, or Israel as a perceived surrogate, were to attack Iran, the possibility that such a compromise can ever become possible deteriorates.

While angst-ridden, the Muslim world understands the rationale for our intervention in Afghanistan where the plotting for the 9/11 attack on the United States occurred. It has no sympathy for our engagement in Iraq, which had nothing to do with 9/11, but if these two interventions were followed by a third in Iran, the likelihood is that such would be perceived in the vocabulary of the Harvard historian, Samuel Huntington, as an all-out "clash of civilizations," pitting the Judeo-Christian against the Muslim world. In the Middle East it would be considered a war of choice precipitated by the United States. We might want it to be seen as a short-term action to halt the spread of nuclear weapons, but the Muslim world would more likely view it as a continuance of the Crusades: a religious conflict of centuries' dimensions, with a revived future.

If military action is deemed necessary, the United States broadly has only three tactical options: (a) Full scale invasion of Iraq; (b) surgical strikes of Iranian nuclear and missile installations; or (c) a surrogate strike by Israel, modeled along the lines of Osirak.

The first can be described as manifestly more difficult than our engagement in Iraq, particularly a post-conflict occupation. The second presents a number of difficulties, including the comprehensiveness of such a strike and the question of whether all aspects of a program that is clandestine can be eliminated. The third makes the United States accountable for Israeli actions, which themselves are likely to be more physically destructive but less effective than the 1981 strike against Osirak.

In thinking through the consequences of military action, even if projected to be successfully carried out, policymakers must put themselves in the place of a potential adversary. A strike that merely buys time may also

be a strike that changes the manner and rationale of Iranian support for terrorist organizations. It may also change the geo-strategic reason for a country like Iran to garner control of nuclear weapons.

It is presumed that the major reasons that Iran currently seeks nuclear weapons relates to: (1) Pride: a belief that a 5,000-year-old society has as much right to control the most modern of weapons systems as a younger civilization like America or its neighbors to the west, Israel, and to the east, Pakistan; (2) power: the implications of control of nuclear weapons with regard to its perceived hegemony as the largest and most powerful country in the Persian Gulf, particularly with regard to its nemesis, Iraq, which not only once attacked Kuwait, but Iran itself using chemical weapons; and (3) politics: the concern that Israeli military dominance is based in part on the control of weapons that cannot be balanced in the Muslim world, except by a very distant Pakistan.

The issue of the day from an American perspective is weapons of mass destruction (WMD), their development and potential proliferation to nation-states and non-national terrorist groups. The question that cannot be ducked is whether military action against Iran might add to the list of reasons Iran may wish to control such weapons: their potential use against the United States. Perhaps as significantly, American policymakers must think through the new world of terrorism and what might be described as lesser weapons of mass destruction, which might be dubbed, "LWMD."

Any strike on Iran would be expected to immediately precipitate a violent reaction in the Shi'a part of Iraq, where the United States has some support today. With ease, Iranian influence on the majority Shi'a of Iraq could make our ability to constructively influence the direction of change in Iraq near hopeless.

And there should be little doubt that in a world in which "tit for tat" is the norm, a strike on Iran would increase the prospect of counter-strikes on American assets around the

world and American territory itself. The asymmetrical nature of modern warfare is such that traditional armies will not be challenged in traditional ways. Nation-states which are attacked may feel they have little option except to ally themselves with terrorist groups to advance national interests.

We view terrorism as an illegitimate tool of uncivilized agents of change. In other parts of the world, increasing numbers of people view terrorist acts as legitimate responses of societies and, in some cases, groups within societies who are oppressed, against those who have stronger military forces.

If Afghanistan, an impoverished country as distant from our shores as any in the world, could become a plotting place for international terrorism, such danger would increase manifoldly with an increase in Iranian hostility, especially if based on an American attack.

If there exists today something like a one-in-three chance of another 9/11-type incident or set of incidents in the United States in the next few years, a preemptive strike against Iran must be assumed to increase the prospect to two-in-three.

And Iran, far more than Osama bin-Laden, has within its power the ability not only to destabilize world politics, but world economies as well. Oil is, after all, the grease of economic activity, and a devastating Iranian-led cutback in supply cannot be ruled out.

Given the risk, if not the untenability, of military action, policymakers are obligated to review other than military options. One, which has characterized our post-hostage taking Iranian policy for a full generation, is isolation of Iran. This policy can be continued, but as tempting as it is, there is little prospect of ratcheting it up much more, except in ways, such as a naval embargo on Iranian oil, that would be difficult to garner international support for and would, in any regard, damage us more than Iran.

The only logical alternative is to consider advancing carrots, without abandoning the possibility of future sticks, and increase our dialogue with this very difficult government.

A proposal that might be suggested is negotiation of a Persian Gulf nuclear-free zone, which would reduce, although given the high possibility of cheating, not eliminate entirely one of the reasons Iran presumably seeks nuclear weapons—fear that it may be at a disadvantage in a conflict with an oil-rich neighbor. In return, America could offer not only normalization of relations in trade but the prospect of a free trade agreement and expanded country-to-country cultural ties with Iran.

Here, it should be stressed, hundreds of thousands of Iranians have been educated in the United States. The country has strong democratic proclivities. While the apparatus of democratic governance is extensive, real power is controlled by the mullahs. Nevertheless, few societies in the world have more potential to move quickly in a democratic direction than Iran. And just as it is hard to believe that outside military intervention would lead to anything except greater ensconcement of authoritarian mullah rule, the prospect of a bettering of U.S. relations with Iran implies a greater prospect of a better Iranian society.

Finally, a note about arms control. If the United States wishes to lead in multilateral restraint, we might want to consider joining rather than rebuking the international community in development of a comprehensive test ban (CTB). All American administrations from Eisenhower on favored negotiation of a CTB. This one has taken the position the Senate took when it irrationally rejected such a ban 5 years ago. The Senate took its angst against the strategic leadership of the Clinton administration out on the wrong issue. This partisan, ideological posturing demands reconsideration. We simply cannot expect others to restrain themselves when we refuse to put constraints on ourselves.

We are in a world where use of force can not be ruled out. But we are also in a world where alternatives are vastly preferable. They must be put forthrightly on the table.